GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2650
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2004
DECLINE IN NUMBER OF MIGRATORY BIRDS
Singh Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether declining number of birds the world over has a direct impact on arrival of migratory birds in Bird Sanctuaries in India, especially Ghana Bird Sanctuary at Bharatpur (Kewaldev);

(b) if so, the details thereof; (

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the same;

(d) whether the Government is aware that the Government of Russia are compelling the birds by flying gliders and forcing them to fly towards Iran due to which the Iran route is becoming easy for these migratory birds;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to implement a similar scheme to attract these migratory birds to India; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. Decline in the number of migratory birds that visit India is attributed to various factors including habitat destruction, pollution, war and hunting en route. The Keoladeo National Park being an important staging ground for migratory waterfowl including storks, cranes, cormorants etc. has experienced the same phenomenon of decline due to above-mentioned factors. The rare and endangered migratory Siberian Cranes have stopped coming to the park after 2002.

(c) India is a signatory to the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals. As international cooperation is essential for mitigating the causes of decline in bird populations all over the world, Government of India has expressed serious concerns at international forums requesting the global community to take urgent ameliorative actions for the protection of migratory birds.

(d) No such report has come to the notice of the Government.

(e) There is no such scheme under the consideration of the Government.

(f) Does not arise